



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Section of Environmental Analysis

August 27, 2007

James McMillan
Senior Regulatory Manager
Utah Regulatory Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
533 West 2600 South Suite 150
Bountiful, Utah 84010

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34075, Six County Association of
Governments-Construction and Operation Exemption-Rail Line between
Levan and Salina, Utah

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I am writing to follow up on our conversation of August 23, 2007 in which we discussed the need for a collaborative effort in the ongoing environmental review for the Six County Association of Governments (SCAOG) proposal to construct and operate a new rail line between Juab, Utah and Salina, Utah and to formally invite you to be a cooperating agency. As you are aware, the project involves approximately 43 miles of new rail line and ancillary facilities that would connect the Union Pacific Railroad about 16 miles south of Nephi, near Juab, Utah, to a proposed coal transfer terminal facility about 0.5 mile southwest of Salina. SCAOG anticipates operating an average of one to two trains per day. Most shipments would consist of coal from the Southern Utah Fuel Company coal mines. In addition to coal shipments, SCAOG anticipates shipping smaller quantities of petroleum products, lumber products, nonmetallic minerals, wallboard, and plaster on the proposed line.

The construction and operation of this project has the potential to result in significant environmental impacts. Therefore, the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) has determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is appropriate. The Board is the lead Federal Agency for this action. Based on preliminary agency consultations and analysis conducted by SEA and its third-party contractor, HDR Inc., SEA has determined that the project, as proposed, would impact properties under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). Therefore, consistent with 40 CFR 1501.6, we are inviting the Corps to be a cooperating

agency in the preparation of this EIS because of your special expertise and jurisdiction by law.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Phillis Johnson-Ball of my staff at (202) 245-0304 (e-mail address: johnson-ballp@stb.dot.gov). I would appreciate your response by September 4, 2007. We look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson", followed by a large, stylized circular flourish.

Victoria Rutson
Chief